

Subject: A Note from Dr. Rahman, President, VAB

February 13, 2003

Dear ODW Students and Teachers,

We at VAB are very excited to hear from Ms. Susan Saragi of USAID that you have accepted our proposal for ODW 2003 program. Being a teacher myself, I feel so happy and privileged that a fellow community of students and teachers recognize the value of our work and are willing to sacrifice their time and efforts to help us in the coming months. Please accept our deepest appreciation for your consideration and support for VAB.

Most high schools in Bangladesh face many difficulties in providing quality education, including acute shortage of equipment and library facilities, low quality teachers and insufficient community linkage. Your support will help us deal with these limitations initially on an experimental basis in four schools in order to help them to improve the quality of education they provide. We strongly believe that by working with your support in these four schools we will gain some valuable experiences that can be duplicated in many other schools that are in dire need of improvement in Bangladesh. We would like to assure you that VAB through its partner NGO, Prakritajan, will do its best to utilize your support and linkage to learn how realistic and sustained improvements and modernization can be brought about in financially challenged schools in Bangladesh.

We thank you most sincerely for your decision and look forward to working with you in the coming years. Please accept our best wishes.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr. A.T. Rafiqur Rahman
Founding President, VAB
Adjunct Professor, City University of New York